

AWARE



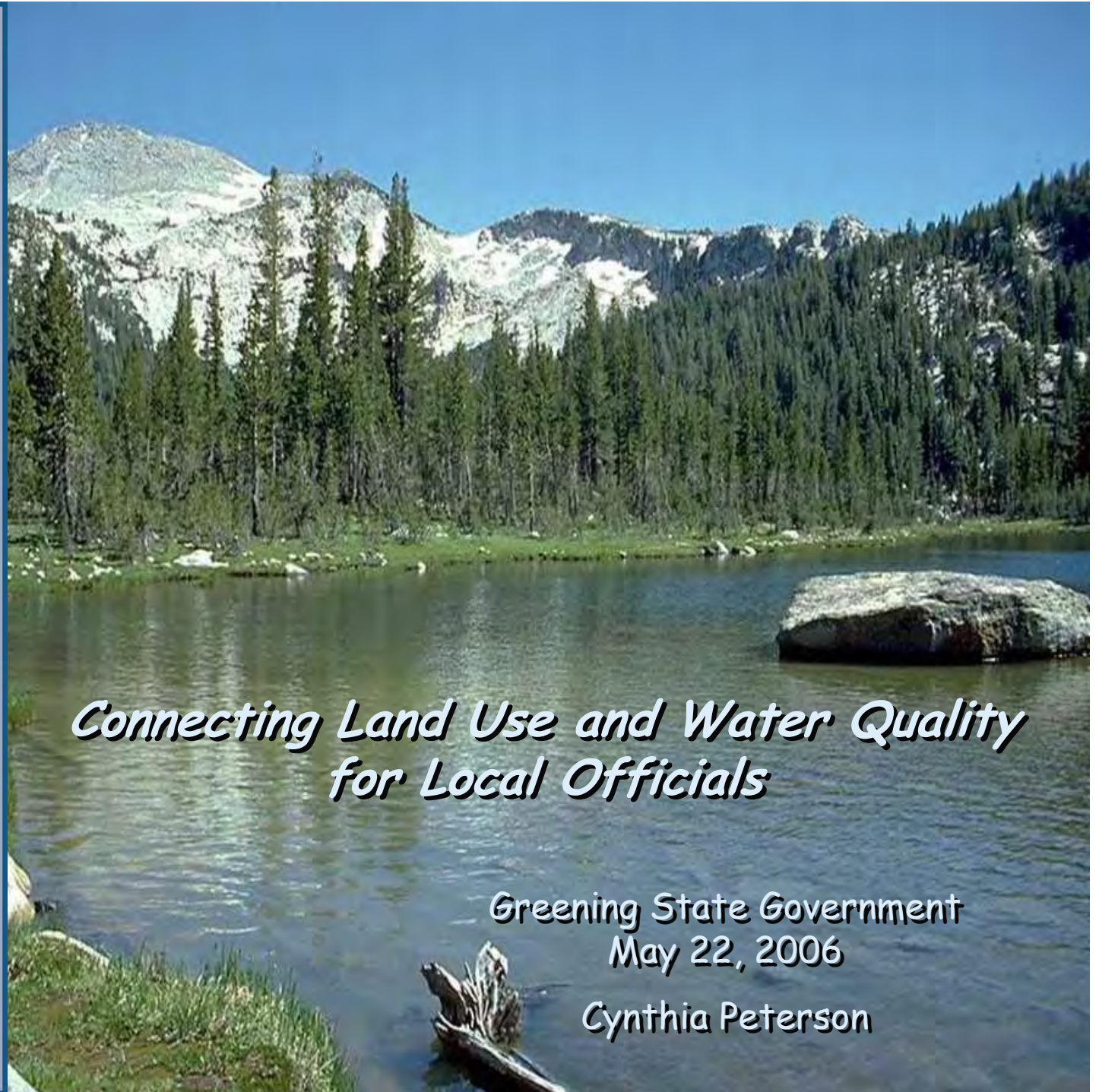
COLORADO

Addressing
Water And
Natural
Resource
Education

*Connecting Land Use and Water Quality
for Local Officials*

Greening State Government
May 22, 2006

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ABOUT AWARE

League of Women Voters of
Colorado Education Fund



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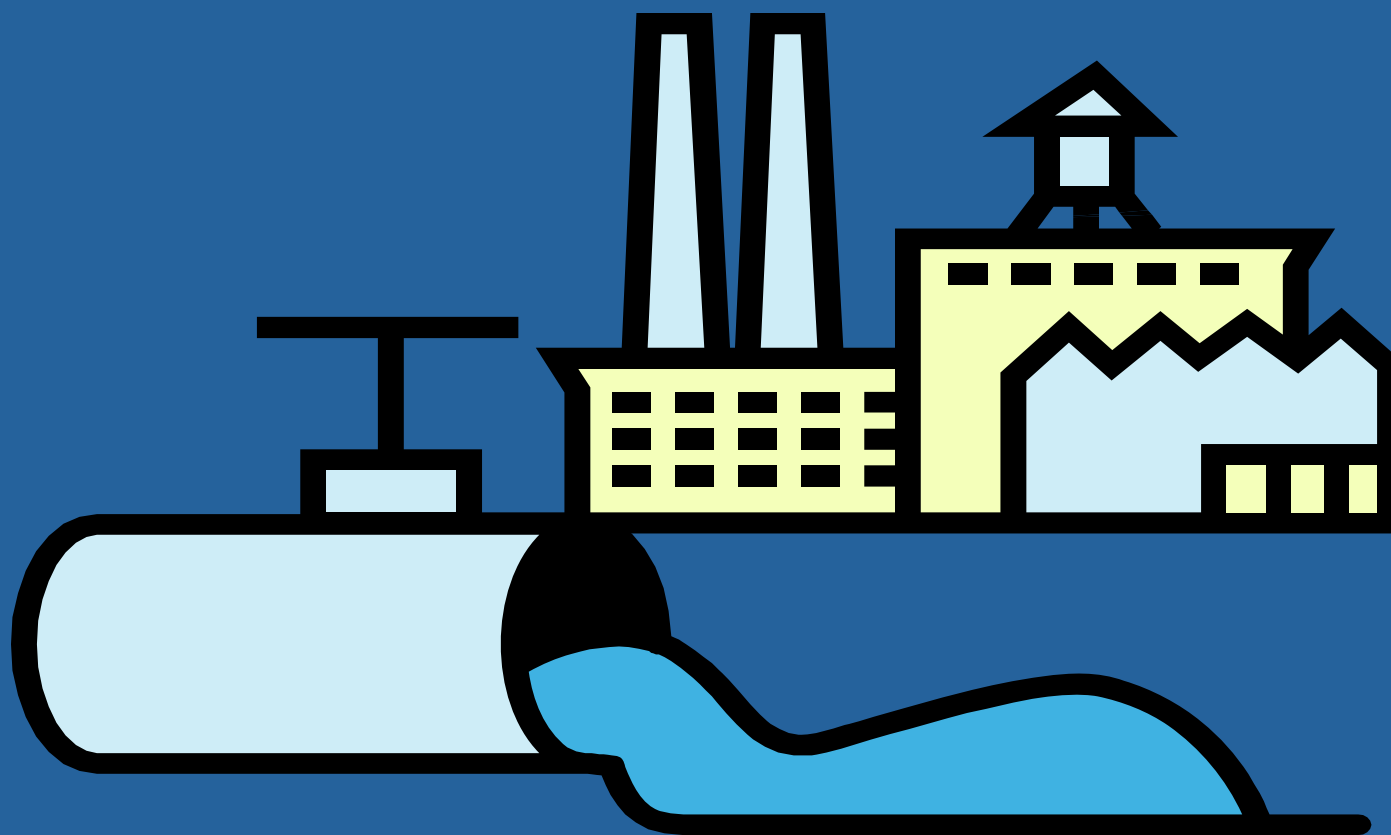
AWARE advisory committee and project partners

Presentation Overview

- How you can prevent water pollution.
- What your community and/or agency can do to protect water resources.
- The AWARE Colorado Program can help.



The "Old Era" of Water Pollution



The "New Era" of Water Pollution

- Pollutants from our use of the land can be picked up by rain and snowmelt and carried to nearby lakes, rivers and streams.
- Small amounts of pollutants from our everyday activities add up to larger pollution problems in our watersheds.
- Stormwater that runs off yards and streets is not treated before it enters local water bodies.



Yard and Garden Chemicals



- Always follow label directions for use and disposal.

- Do not apply yard and garden products if rain is likely.

- Hand pull weeds.



- Remove insects by hand or use insecticidal soap.

- Consider composting lawn waste.

Pet Waste



- Carry a plastic bag or pooper-scooper.
- Flush pet waste down the toilet
OR
- Wrap it securely and put it in the trash.

Automotive Products



- Read labels carefully and follow disposal directions.
- Never pour automotive products down a storm drain.
- If a spill occurs, use kitty litter, sawdust or wood chips to soak up the fluid and put it in the trash.
- Keep your vehicle well maintained.

Household Hazardous Waste



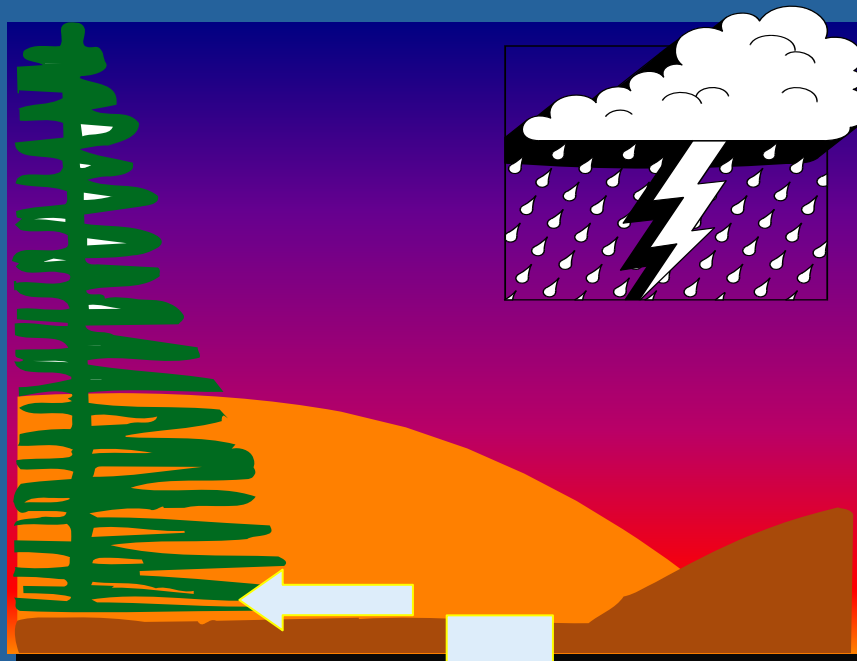
- Choose the product that is least hazardous or dangerous to use.
- Read and follow directions for use, storage and disposal carefully.
- Use up household chemicals completely, or
- Take products to a hazardous waste collection site.

What Communities/Agencies Can Do

- They have a unique opportunity to prevent polluted runoff at the source and protect water resources.
- Planning is key.



How Development Impacts the Water Cycle



More
Infiltration



More Runoff



Water-Protective Strategies

- Collaboration
- Cluster Development
- Overlay Zoning
- Planned Unit Development



Same number of building sites, less impervious surface

Transportation

- Streets and Roads
- Parking Lots
- Driveways and Sidewalks
- Porous Pavers



Landscaping

- Native Plants/Xeriscaping
- Save and Replace Topsoil
- Urban Forests



AWARE COLORADO RESOURCES

- Community Presentations
- Water Protection Toolkit for Local Officials
- AWARE Colorado Web site (awarecolorado.org)
- Community Awareness Review Sheet
- Model Ordinance and Cost/Benefit Resource Lists
- AWARE Updates e-newsletter



CONCLUSION

- ✓ How we live on and develop the land impacts water quality.
- ✓ All of us play a key role in preventing polluted runoff.
- ✓ Helpful resources are available.

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND UPDATES

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www.awarecolorado.org

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